(c) and (d) Yes Sir. Some of the steps taken/proposed to be taken for ensuring remunerative prices to the growers include:—

(1) Licencing auctioneers in places near consumption centres such as Bombay.

(2) Alerting Deptt. of Revenue and all other customs authorities and their field formations against the complaints of alleged smuggling of cardamom from Guatemala through Nepal;

(3) Promotion of cardamom in consumer packs in North and West India; and

(4) Reimbursement of airfreight charges at the rate of Rs. 20 per Kg. for export of small cardamom in consumer packs to Middle east destinations and exemption on payment of cess on export of cardamom.

**Central Assistance**

557. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tenth Finance Commission has not made recommendations for providing plan revenue deficit grant to some States;

(b) whether some States are facing difficulties for making provision of revenue expenditure under the plan, particularly;

(c) if so, whether Union government propose to provide additional Central assistance to State like Orissa; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The Tenth Finance Commission (TFC) has not recommended plan revenue deficit grant to States.

(b) to (d) The total devolution to States under Tenth Finance Commission during 1995–2000 is estimated to be Rs. 2,26,643 crore as compared to Rs. 1,06,036 crore recommended by Ninth Finance Commission (NFC) for the period 1990–95. The total devolution to Orissa as per the recommendation of TFC for 1995–2000 is estimated to be Rs. 9706.55 crore as compared to Rs. 5523.04 crore recommended by NFC over the preceding quin quennium 1990–95. There is adequate increase in the total devolution to States including Orissa State as recommended by TFC during 1995–2000.

The recommendation of TFC have already been accepted by Government of India. Accordingly the devolution of resources from Centre to States during 1995–2000 would be as per the recommendations of TFC.

The requirement of resources for funding the Annual plans of States is assessed by Planning Commission in consultation with States. The annual plan of Orissa for 1997–98 as finalised by Planning Commission is fully funded. There is no proposal under consideration of the Government of India to give additional Central assistance to the State in addition to what has already been allocated by Planning Commission.

**Financial Scams Unearthed by CBI**

558. DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHARA REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of financial scams in banks, Government offices etc. have been unearthed by the CBI during 1997 (upto November 1);

(b) the names of these banks/bodies and the amount involved in each case; and

(c) the action taken in this regard and the amount expected to be recovered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ)

(a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[Translation]*

**Sick Industries in Bihar**

559. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the big sicks industries in Bihar;

(b) the date from which they have been closed down and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to revive some valley Portland Cement Factory;

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be revived;

(e) whether the Union government proposed to revive various sick industries in Bihar; and

(f) if so, the industry wise steps taken by the Union Government for reviving those industries?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (f) : Data on sick industrial units assisted by banks in the country in compiled by the Reserve bank of India. According to the latest report, at the end of March, 1996, there were 56 non-SSI sick units in Bihar. These are mainly Engineering, Electrical, Sugar, Textiles, Paper, Iron & Steel and Chemical Units.

A number of causes, both internal and external, often operating in combination, have been responsible for industrial sickness.